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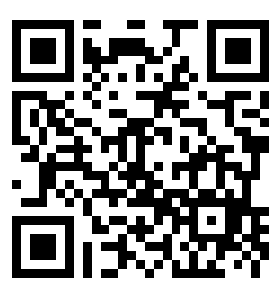

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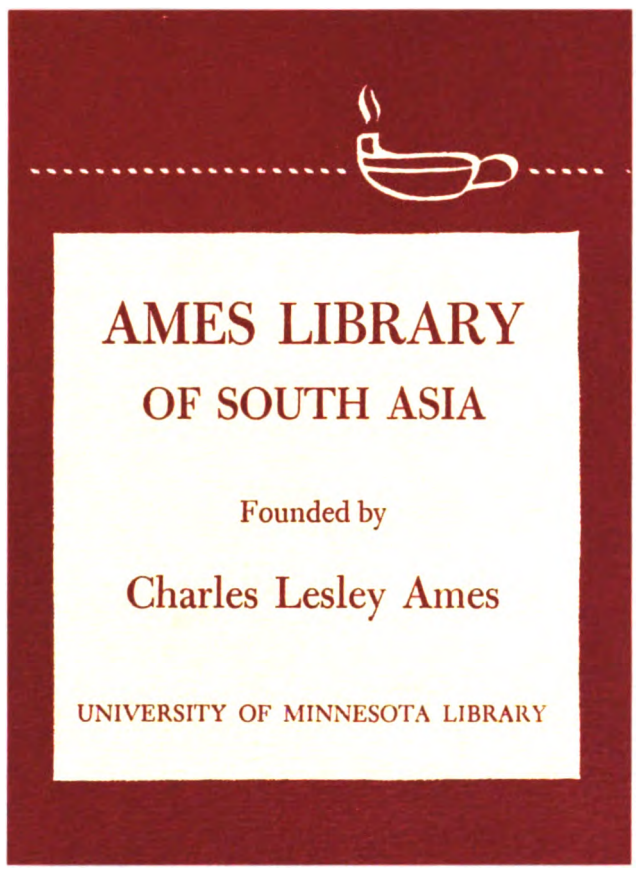

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EAST INDIA (ATTEMPT UPON THE LIFE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY).

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO THE

ATTEMPT UPON THE LIFE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL,

ON THE OCCASION OF THE

STATE ENTRY INTO DELHI,

On 23rd December, 1912.

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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EAST INDIA (ATTEMPT UPON THE LIFE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY).

Correspondence relating to the Attempt upon the Life of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General, on the occasion of the State Entry into Delhi, on 23rd December, 1912.

No. 1.

Letter from the Government of India to the Most Honourable the Marquis of Crewe, K.G., His Majesty's Secretary of State for India, No. 17 (Home), dated Delhi, the 26th December, 1912.

It is our melancholy duty to inform Your Lordship that His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General has been wounded by a miscreant as yet unknown on the occasion of Their Excellencies' Entry into Delhi on Monday, the 23rd December, 1912.

2. It had been decided to signalize this historic occasion with the stately and measured ceremonial of which we enclose the programme. The day was fine and large crowds had gathered in the sunshine along the whole route. The houses in the Chandni Chowk were packed with people. At 11.45 a.m., about half-way down the Chandni Chowk, on the way from the Railway Station to the Fort, a bomb was thrown into the howdah of Their Excellencies' elephant. It exploded with terrific force, blowing to pieces the attendant who was standing in the howdah immediately behind Lord Hardinge and seriously wounding the attendant who was standing behind Lady Hardinge. Her Excellency fortunately escaped, but parts of the missile struck Lord Hardinge and inflicted the wounds described in the medical report which we append to this despatch. A boy in the crowd was killed and several of the onlookers were wounded, but complete order was maintained.

3. Their Excellencies did not move in their seats. After recovering his helmet, which had been blown off by the explosion, the Viceroy ordered the procession to go forward. He soon, however, lost consciousness, and was lifted off the elephant and taken in a motor to Viceregal Lodge.

4. When Their Excellencies had departed the procession reformed and continued its progress to the Fort. In the absence of the Viceroy it devolved on the senior ordinary Member of Council, the Honourable Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson, to read His Excellency's reply to the address of the Imperial Legislative Council and his speech in Durbar. At the conclusion of the proceedings in the Dewan-i-am the procession returned through the Chandni Chowk to the Mori gate as arranged. The crowds had not dispersed or moved, and their conduct throughout left nothing to be desired.

5. We have expressed our thanks to Almighty God that Their Excellencies' lives have been spared, and recorded our admiration of their intrepid bearing. We rejoice to be able to inform Your Lordship that His Excellency is making good progress and that his condition does not cause anxiety.

6. The loyal heart of India has been profoundly stirred by this dastardly outrage, and a great cry of indignation and grief has risen from one end of the Continent to another, from the Princes and from the people.

7. We are not yet in a position to formulate any theory as to the origin of the outrage or to weigh its political significance. The bomb, which contained picric acid, is believed to have been thrown from the upper part of the house of the Punjab

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National Bank. We have called on the local authorities to send us a full report, and Your Lordship may rest assured that no effort will be spared to discover the criminal and the influences behind his nefarious act.

We have, &c.,

(Signed) O'MOORE CREAGH.
,, GUY FLEETWOOD WILSON.
,, R. W. CARLYLE.
,, SAYED ALI IMAM.
,, HARCOURT BUTLER.
,, W. H. CLARK.
,, R. H. CRADDOCK.

Enclosure 1 in No. 1.

Programme of the State arrival of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Hardinge at Delhi, on the 23rd December, 1912.

THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL AND LADY HARDINGE will arrive by special train at the Delhi main station at 11 a.m. on Monday, the 23rd December, 1912, and will proceed from the railway station to the Delhi Fort, and thereafter to the Circuit House by the route and in the order of procession hereinafter indicated.

2. Their Excellencies will be received on arrival by—

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and his personal staff.
His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and personal staff.
The Ordinary Members of the Governor General's Executive Council.
The Chiefs present in Delhi.
The Principal Officers of the Punjab Government.
The Chief Commissioner of Delhi.
The General Officer Commanding the Northern Army and staff.
The General Officer Commanding the 7th (Meerut) Division.

As Their Excellencies alight from their carriage, the band drawn up on the platform will play the National Anthem. At the same time a Royal salute of 31 guns will be fired from the ramparts of the Fort.

After Their Excellencies have exchanged greetings with His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, the Members of Council, the Chief Commissioner of Delhi, Ruling Chiefs other than of the Punjab, the General Officer Commanding the Northern Army and the General Officer Commanding the 7th (Meerut) Division; His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor will introduce to Their Excellencies the Chiefs and principal officials of the Punjab.

An address of welcome will then be presented by the Delhi Municipal Committee, to which His Excellency will reply. At the conclusion of the address Their Excellencies will leave the station and will be saluted by the Guard of Honour drawn up outside the entrance.

3. After His Excellency has inspected the Guard of Honour,* Their Excellencies will mount their elephants and, accompanied by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor and staff, His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and staff, Members of the Executive Council and the Punjab Chiefs, will proceed in procession to the Delhi Fort, where a Durbar will be held in the Diwan-i-am.

* NOTE.—While his Excellency inspects the Guard of Honour, the Chiefs and officers taking part in the procession will leave the station yard by the east gate and proceed to mount their elephants which will be drawn up along the Queen's Road. A special train will be in waiting to convey the Municipal Committee and those officers not taking part in the elephant procession to the Selimgarh Bastion station, from which place they will make their way on foot to the Diwan-i-am.

Those Chiefs not taking part in the elephant procession will proceed immediately by motor to the Diwan-i-am leaving the station by the side entrance.

The following will be the line of route of procession :—

Queen's Gardens.
Town Hall,
Chandni Chowk,
through the Lahore Gate of the Fort to the
Naubat Khana.

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4. The Procession will be formed in the following order :—

The Superintendent of Police, Delhi.
The Chief Commissioner of Delhi and his staff.
Staff Officer of the Viceroy's Escort.
1 Squadron British Cavalry.
1 Battery Horse Artillery.
3 Squadrons British Cavalry.

Orderly Officer, Viceroy's Escort. | Orderly Officer, Viceroy's Escort.

General Officer Commanding, Viceroy's Escort.
Staff of the General Officer Commanding the Northern Army.
The General Officer Commanding the Northern Army.
Viceroy's Body Guard.
Imperial Cadet Corps.

(ON ELEPHANTS.)

2 Indian Aides-de-Camp to the Viceroy.

2 Aides-de-Camp to the Viceroy.	2 Aides-de-Camp to the Viceroy.
2 Aides-de-Camp to the Viceroy.	Surgeon to the Viceroy.
The Military Secretary to the Viceroy.	Honorary Colonel Nawab Sir Hafiz Muhammad Abdullah Khan, A.-D.-C.
Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel Nawab Sir Muhammad Ali Beg, Afsar-ul-Mulk Bahadur.	The Secretary to the Government of India, Foreign Department.
	The Private Secretary to the Viceroy.

THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE VICEROY AND LADY HARDINGE.

2 Personal staff of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.	2 Personal staff of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Lady Creagh.

The Hon'ble Sir Guy Fleetwood Wilson.
The Hon'ble Sir Robert Carlyle.

The Hon'ble Sir Harcourt Butler.
The Hon'ble Saiyid Ali Imam.

The Hon'ble Mr. W. H. Clark.
The Hon'ble Sir Reginald Craddock.

The Mohammedan Raises and Maliks of the Punjab. (On horseback.)

2 Personal staff of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.	2 Personal staff of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and Lady Dane.
The Punjab Chiefs.
Indian Cavalry Regiment.

5. Their Excellencies and staff, the Commander-in-Chief and staff and the Members of the Governor General's Executive Council will alight from their elephants at the entrance to the Naubat Khana. Those taking part in the Punjab procession to the Diwan-i-am will alight at the side entrance and form up in readiness for the procession.

*(For proceedings in Durbar see separate programme.)**

6. At the conclusion of the Durbar and on the return of the procession to the Naubat Khana, Their Excellencies and those taking part in the elephant procession will remount their elephants and proceed in procession as before to the Mori Gate.

The route to be followed will be—

The Delhi Gate of the Fort,
Khas Road past King Edward's Statue
(round the Juma Masjid leaving it on the right),
Esplanade Road,
Chandni Chowk,
Dufferin Railway Bridge,
Mori Gate.

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On reaching the cross roads outside the Mori Gate, the elephants of Their Excellencies and staff will be halted in order that Their Excellencies may take farewell of the Punjab Chiefs and have an opportunity of viewing the procession which will pass along the Rajpur Road.

Their Excellencies will then alight from their elephant and proceed by carriage to Viceregal Lodge *viâ* the Mori and Alipur Roads.

On arrival at the Viceregal Lodge, a royal salute of 31 guns will be fired and the Guard of Honour will salute as Their Excellencies alight from their carriage.

LEVÉE DRESS WILL BE WORN BY OFFICERS ENTITLED TO WEAR CIVIL UNIFORM, FULL DRESS BY MILITARY OFFICERS, AND GENTLEMEN NOT ENTITLED TO WEAR UNIFORM, MORNING DRESS.

A. H. McMahon,
Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign Department.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 1.

Medical Report on the condition of His Excellency the Viceroy, dated Viceregal Lodge, Delhi, the 23rd December, 1912, 1.30 p.m.

A portion of the projectile struck the back of the right shoulder along the inner border of the shoulder blade. It passed upwards and came out through the skin along the upper line of the shoulder, causing a wound four inches long, exposing muscle and bone. There is no injury to the lungs.

A fragment caused a small wound on the right side of the neck, but this is not serious.

There are also four small wounds caused by nails on the back of the right hip—all these are slight. There has been moderate loss of blood, but the shock has been severe, and there is some deafness caused by the explosion. His Excellency soon after his injuries lost consciousness, but recovered quickly.

The wounds have been dressed, and His Excellency is now fairly comfortable.

(Signed) T. R. Roberts, Lt.-Col., I.M.S.,
Surgeon to His Excellency the Viceroy.

No. 2.

Despatch from the Most Hon. the Marquess of Crewe to the Government of India, No. 20 (Public), dated 17th January, 1913.

I have read with interest and deep sympathy the despatch issued by your Council in the Home Department, and dated the 26th of December, 1912, describing the terrible events of the previous Monday.

2. It is not necessary to enlarge upon the emotions of horror and disappointment which affected the whole of this country at such evidence that the sinister agencies of violence and crime, which it was hoped had been reduced to impotence by stern determination to repress outrage and not less by continued endeavour to satisfy the legitimate aspirations of the people of India, are still ready and able to perpetrate an act so brutal and so senseless.

3. But I am confident that the conviction is here firmly held, the truth of which is entirely confirmed by your despatch, that India as a whole, from the Princes who rule over the Native States to the humblest cultivators of the soil, regards the crime with loathing, being moved not less by resentment at the attempt than by gratitude at its comparative failure.

4. It is a matter for profound thankfulness that Your Excellency was not more gravely injured, and that Lady Hardinge escaped unhurt; but we all deeply deplore the cruel sacrifice of innocent lives. At the same time, I cannot refrain from expressing sincere admiration of the calm courage shown by Your Excellency, and also by Lady Hardinge, in a moment of such sudden peril, courage which was fitly manifested by yourself, and which also inspired the Members of your Council in the resolve to carry though the ordered proceedings of the day as though no such untoward interruption had occurred. We regard this action with pride as being symbolical of the spirit and purpose of British rule in India.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CREWE.

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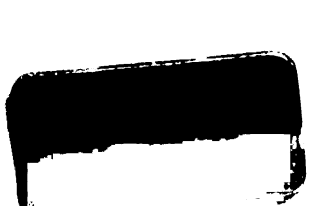

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